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countries as Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Poland are made through the High Commissioner for India in London and hence that expenditure is shown as 'Charges in England'. In every case, the order is placed for the best offer on the open tender system taking into account technical superiority of the equipment concerned as well as its cost, irrespective of the country of manufacture."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Representation regarding Backward Classes.

55 *Q.*—Sri G. LATCHANNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the population of each community included in the list of Backward communities in the Madras State;

(*b*) whether any representations were received by the Government requesting for the constitution of a separate Statutory Welfare Board for Backward communities and also stating that funds hitherto allocated by the Government for their welfare are inadequate; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken so far?

A.—(*a*) In the recent census, there was no enumeration in the order of communities and therefore information regarding the total population of each community included in the list of Backward Classes is not available.

(*b*) No representation was received for the constitution of a separate Statutory Welfare Board for Backward Classes. However, representations were received from the Backward Classes League, Madras, that the Backward Classes Advisory Board should be invested with powers to administer the funds made available for the uplift of Backward Classes and that the allotment should be increased.

(*c*) As there is an advisory committee already under existence to advise Government in the matter of advancing the interests of the Backward Classes, the Government consider it unnecessary to constitute any other body with powers to distribute grants, etc.

An additional grant of Rs. 75,000 has since been sanctioned by the Government.

Starvation deaths in the State.

56 *Q.*—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of deaths, if any, on account of starvation in 1951–52 in the State?

A.—Nil.

Photos of British Governors.

57 Q.—SRI T. LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to remove the British Governors' photos from Rajaji Hall?

A.—Not only in the old Banquetting Hall but in other places throughout India there are many fine paintings belonging to the British period; and the question of how best to preserve these historic relics when terminating the present obvious incongruity in public exhibition has been exercising the minds of the departments concerned in the Governments of India and of the various States.

Dramatic performances for collecting funds for the Government Arts College hostel, Cuddapah.

58 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) if any dramatic performances were contemplated on 9th, 10th and 11th November 1951 to collect funds for the construction and expansion of the hostel buildings of the Government Arts College, Cuddapah, by the College Hostel Committee;

(b) if so, how much money was realized;

(c) whether the dramas were enacted;

(d) whether accounts were published; and

(e) who was the president of the Hostel Committee in November 1951?

A.—(a) The Cuddapah College Hostel Building Committee proposed to conduct a benefit performance in November 1951 to raise funds of about forty thousand rupees for the work relating to the construction of the College Hostel Buildings.

(b) An amount of Rs. 2,225 was realized through the sale of tickets.

(c) & (d) The proposed benefit performance was postponed to February 1952, in view of the poor response; and the idea was later on abandoned in view of the famine conditions. The unsold tickets were called back. The amount realized was received by the Secretary and Treasurer of the Cuddapah College Committee and spent for the Hostel work. The unsold tickets and the accounts of the College Committee are with him. The accounts were not published.

(e) Sri N. Ranga Reddi, M.L.C., now Minister for Public Works, was the President of the Committee at that time.

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Expenditure on the Government Basic Training School buildings, Pallipad, Nellore district.

59 *Q.*—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what the total expenditure is for the construction of building of the Government Basic Training School, Pallipad of Nellore district?

A.—The total expenditure on the construction of buildings for the Government Basic Training School, Pallipad, Nellore district, is Rs. 1,70,053.

Artesian wells in South Arcot district.

60 *Q.*—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of artesian wells completed in the South Arcot district since the year 1948; and

(*b*) the amount spent so far on these wells?

A.—(*a*) The number of artesian wells so far completed in the South Arcot district since the year 1948 is 119, comprising 20 wells under the 20 wells scheme sanctioned in 1948 and 99 wells under the 101 wells scheme sanctioned in 1950. Of these 5 wells have proved to be unsuccessful.

(*b*) The amount spent so far on the construction of these wells is Rs. 6,48,400 (Rs. 1,32,000 under the 20 wells scheme and Rs. 5,16,400 under the 101 wells scheme).

Alleged discovery of a treasure-trove in Singapet, Nellore district.

61 *Q.*—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation in September 1952 about the discovery of gold worth about Rs. 30,000 in Singapet village of Nellore district, in June 1952; and

(*b*) if so, what the action taken by the Government under the Treasure Trove Act is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Collector of Nellore has reported that he received a petition in September 1952, from the member alleging the discovery of gold worth Rs. 30,000 in Singapet village of Kovur taluk, in June 1952. The Collector is enquiring into the matter in consultation with the Deputy Superintendent of Police.

Alleged cultivation of lands reserved for depressed classes by caste ryots.

62 *Q.*—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representations from the members of Scheduled Castes of Nellore district in the year 1952 regarding the cultivation of lands reserved for the depressed classes by caste ryots in Nellore district; and

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(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Artesian wells sunk under the Grow More Food Campaign:

63 Q.—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of artesian wells sanctioned in the year 1950 and 1951 respectively to be sunk under the Grow More Food scheme and in what districts;

(b) the number of wells completed in 1950 and 1951 respectively; and

(c) the amount spent for the purpose in 1950 and 1951 respectively?

A.—(a) One hundred and one artesian wells were sanctioned in 1950, all of them in the South Arcot district. No artesian wells were sanctioned in 1951.

(b) In 1950, 8 wells under the 20 artesian wells scheme in the South Arcot district sanctioned in 1948 and 3 wells under the 101 artesian wells scheme in the South Arcot district sanctioned in 1950 were completed. In 1951, 6 wells under the 20 wells scheme and 50 wells under the 101 wells scheme were completed.

(c) The amounts spent on the construction of artesian wells during the years 1950 and 1951 are as follows :—

1950.—Rupees 32,000 under the 20 wells scheme and Rs. 1,01,704 under the 101 wells scheme. The total expenditure in 1950 was Rs. 1,33,074.

1951.—Rupees 56,000 under the 20 wells scheme and Rs. 3,26,565 under the 101 wells scheme. The total expenditure in 1951 was Rs. 3,82,565.

Rural Industrialization Scheme of Sri M. Visveswarayya.

64 Q.—Sri S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state whether the Government have implemented Sri M. Visveswarayya's Industrialization Scheme for Rural Areas and, if so, in what districts and the names of the taluks that have been taken up for the purpose?

A.—The Rural Industrialization Scheme is now being implemented in Musiri taluk of Tiruchirappalli district and Nellore taluk of Nellore district as an experimental measure.

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Applications for pattas received in West Godavari.

65 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the number of applications received for pattas and the number of pattas granted to (i) Harijans, (ii) Harijan Christians, and (iii) other landless poor up to 30th June 1952 as per G.O. No. 1523, Revenue, dated 11th June 1949, in West Godavari district?

A.—Applications have been received in thousands. The particulars asked for are not readily available as no record of the communities of the applicants has been kept.

Pay and daily fees of Public Prosecutors.

66 *Q.*—SRI S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from Coimbatore in the second week of October 1952 regarding the enhancement of pay of Public Prosecutors; and

(*b*, if so, at what stage the matter stands?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A representation has been received from the Public Prosecutors' Association requesting the Government to consider the resolutions passed at a Special Conference held at Madras on 12th October 1952. The resolutions relate to enhancement of pay and daily fee payable to Public Prosecutors. The matter is under consideration.

Oral examinations by the Madras Public Service Commission.

67 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether stenographic records of the *viva voce* examinations by the Madras Public Service Commission of candidates applying for Government services, are kept and maintained; and

(*b*) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the members of the Madras Public Services Commission to speak before candidates, disparagingly about the Andhra University, or the Andhras in general and if they have, the reasons therefor?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) There is no truth in these allegations which, on the face of them, it is very improper to make without adequate basis.

Calculation of officiating service and pay for pension.

68 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that salaries of non-gazetted officers of all departments were revised with effect from the 1st January 1947;

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that officiating service would count for pension, only in the case of non-gazetted officers who retire after the 1st January 1948; and

(*c*) whether representations have been received from the Non-Gazetted Officers' Association that the order giving concession in the matter of pensions only in the case of non-gazetted officers who retire after the 1st January 1948 would work hardship to those who retired in 1947, and requesting relief even to those who may have retired in 1947, and if so what action was taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In the case of Government servants retiring from service on or after the 1st March 1950, officiating *service* in excess of five years will count for pension. As financial concessions are usually sanctioned with effect from the date of the order, retrospective effect was not given to the above order. The crucial date in this case is the 1st March 1950 and not the 1st January 1948. The Member probably refers to the concession of counting officiating *pay* to a limited extent which was sanctioned in 1951. This concession was not new. It was in fact continuance beyond the 31st December 1947, subject to certain restrictions, of the concession which was admissible from the 3rd September 1939 to the 31st December 1947. Therefore, Government servants who retired *before* the 1st January 1948 after officiating in higher posts were also entitled to the concession. The concessions referred to above, namely counting officiating *service* and officiating *pay* for pension are admissible, not only to non-gazetted Government servants but to gazetted servants also.

(*c*) As stated in the answer to clause (*b*) above, there is no hardship of the kind stated, and no representations on the subject have been received from the Non-Gazetted Officers' Association.

Qualifications of Rural Welfare Officers and Grama Sevaks.

69 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state whether any qualifications are prescribed for the Rural Welfare Officers and Grama Sevaks?

A.—No specific qualifications have actually been prescribed but the considerations that were borne in mind in selecting candidates to the posts in question at the time when the Rural Welfare Scheme was launched originally in the year 1946, were the following, namely :—

(i) possession of necessary enthusiasm and aptitude for rural reconstruction work;

(ii) organising capacity; and

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(iii) ability to feel at home in rural surroundings, study the needs of the villagers with understanding and sympathy, evoke their confidence and secure their willing co-operation in pushing through schemes of rural uplift.

Besides the above aspects, persons possessing minimum general educational qualification, i.e., S.S.L.C., in the case of Grama Sevaks and a Degree in Arts or Science of a recognised University in the case of Rural Welfare Officers are now given preference in the matter of appointment.

Nominations to District Rural Welfare Committees.

70 *Q.*—Sri K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state the principle followed in selecting non-officials for nomination to serve on the Firka Development Committees in the various districts?

A.—The District Firka Development Committees are now known as District Rural Welfare Committees. The non-official members of these Committees are selected for nomination, based mainly on their real enthusiasm for Rural Reconstruction work and co-operative tendency, so that full local support for the successful working of the Rural Welfare Scheme is obtained. One local M.L.A. or M.L.C. and a member, if any, represented in the State Rural Welfare Board are also nominated, as their association will also be useful in the deliberations of the Committees. Non-official members for each District Committee are accordingly nominated on the following basis :—

(*a*) Four prominent constructive workers—two of them being preferably from the firkas and centres selected and the other two being from the rest of the district; one of these four should be a District Board Member;

(*b*) one Member, if any, from the district on the State Rural Welfare Board; and

(*c*) one local M.L.A. or M.L.C.

Appointment under the emergency provisions in State Service.

71 *Q.*—Sri K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of Government employees employed under emergency provisions under rule 9 (*a*) (i) of the Madras Ministerial Subordinate Service who are still in service?

A.—The time and labour involved in collecting the information from all over the State will not be commensurate with any good purpose the collection of such statistics may serve.